AKIRA 12

KATSUHIRO OTOMO

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AKIRA

BY KATSUHIRO OTOMO

CHAPTER 12

ENTER SAKAKI

WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE

The year is 2030. The world is rebuilding from World War III. In **Neo-Tokyo** plans are being made to hold the next Olympics in the 'old city' where thirty-eight years before, the first of the bombs fell. In the old city a band of teenaged delinquents led by **Kaneda** encounter **Number 26**—a terrified child possessing extraordinary telekinetic abilities. During the encounter, the paranormal boy gravely injures **Tetsuo**, one of Kaneda's close friends, then mysteriously vanishes.

As a result, **Kaneda** and **Tetsuo** become entangled in a power struggle between a mysterious military and scientific organization led by a man known only as the **Colonel** and an underground resistance group bent on putting a stop to the Colonel's activities.

Among the resistance, **Kaneda** meets **Kay**—a girl he alternately maddens and tries to seduce—Kay's "brother" **Ryu** and Ryu's closest subordinate, a man who proves his value to the group when he detects and very nearly kills a spy from the Colonel's organization. Ryu's superiors in the resistance include **Nezu**—who publically leads the political party that opposes the government—and a powerful religious leader with strong precognitive gifts, **Lady Miyako**.

The **Colonel** already has a number of children under his control, each one possessing a distinct set of psychic talents and identified by a number marked on the hand. (**Lady Miyako**

Kaneda **Kay** **Takashi** **Ryu**

was, at one time, Number 19 in the series | One of the children the **Colonel** "controls" is the mental giant **Akira**. Because of his immense psychic abilities, he has been suspended in cryogenic sleep beneath the half-finished Olympic Stadium for almost four decades.

The Colonel's chief medical advisor, called **Doctor**, subjects **Tetsuo** to painful electronic and chemical experiments, awakening tremendous telepathic potential in the boy who is dubbed **Number 41**. Unfortunately, as his powers grow, a monstrous side of Tetsuo's nature also appears. Able to shrug off the most serious injuries, **Tetsuo** goes on a killing spree, eventually murdering one of Kaneda's closest friends and attacking **Kaneda** who, along with **Kay**, is subsequently captured by the **Colonel** and taken to his installation.

Tetsuo learns of Akira's existence and is unable to tolerate the idea that **Akira** may be more powerful than he is, so he forces the **Doctor** to tell him where his rival lies. Determined to seek him out, **Tetsuo** brutally attacks the **Colonel**, who tries to restrain him. The psychic children, who, like **Lady Miyako**, fear Akira's power and are worried about the disaster **Tetsuo** may unleash, use their talents to help **Kaneda** and **Kay** escape from their cells. Armed with a laser, **Kaneda** routs **Tetsuo**, who flees the installation and sets out for the Olympic site where **Akira** sleeps. Before the **Colonel** recovers, **Kaneda** and **Kay** are also able to escape "aided" by the same spy Ryu's lieutenant previously left for dead. Although they don't trust the man, **Kaneda** and **Kay** bring him along as they, too, head for the Olympic site. **Ryu** and his lieutenant are working undercover at the Olympic Stadium, posing as soldiers.

Hoping to prevent a disaster, the Colonel alerts his troops and scientists. When everyone finally reaches the site, fighting breaks out.

Tetsuo easily repels wave after wave of soldiers armed with the most sophisticated weaponry. The scientists monitoring Akira's cryogenic induced sleep are appalled to discover that the temperature in Akira's chamber is beginning to rise, and they deduce that even in hibernation, Akira's power is responding to Tetsuo's psychic energy.

Tetsuo | Kiyoko | The Colonel | Lady Miyako

Kaneda, Kay and the spy steal one of the army's flying platforms but are unable to control it. The result is while trying to reach Akira's chamber, the unlikely trio fly by an elevator platform carrying **Tetsuo, Ryu** and his lieutenant. The runaway platform, also, rockets by the **Colonel**, and dozens of hostile troops. The trio barely manages to leap off the platform before it crashes. Now grounded, **Kay** forces the spy to go his own way. **Kay** and **Kaneda** stumble across a map to Number 28's chamber—Akira's chamber. From hiding they watch dumbfounded as **Tetsuo** strides past them right for the chamber. Meanwhile, the spy corners Ryu's lieutenant on an elevator platform and they begin a fight to the death.

Intense cold from the growing cracks in Akira's chamber begins to spill throughout the site. The **Colonel** orders his troops to fall back and take cover. While, the scientists are frantic they know it could only mean that **Akira** is close to consciousness. Just as **Tetsuo** reaches Akira's resting place, the cryogenic chamber cracks from within—**Akira** emerges.

The paranormal giant is still dazed and weak with the aftereffects of his sleep, unable to speak, shy of bright lights. **Akira** is easily ordered about. **Tetsuo** and he begin to make their way to the surface. Realizing that it is move or perish, **Kay** and **Kaneda** also manage to find a way to the surface.

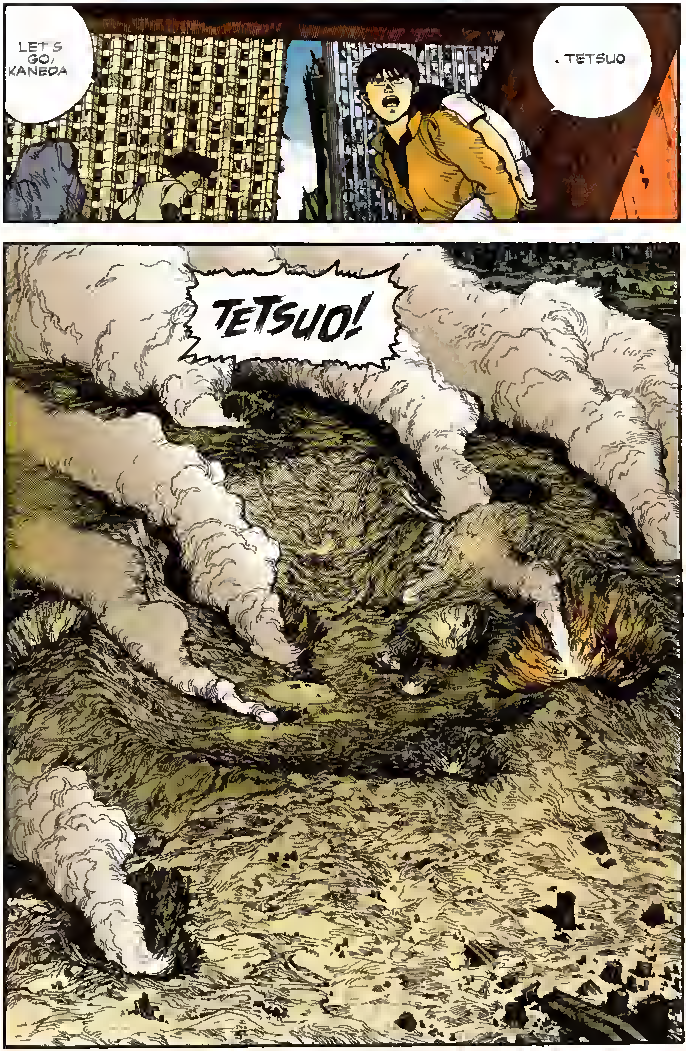
Less fortunate are Ryu's friend and the spy, the **Doctor**, and a number of soldiers, all killed by the deadly cold. **Ryu**, ironically is saved by other soldiers who still believe he is one of them.

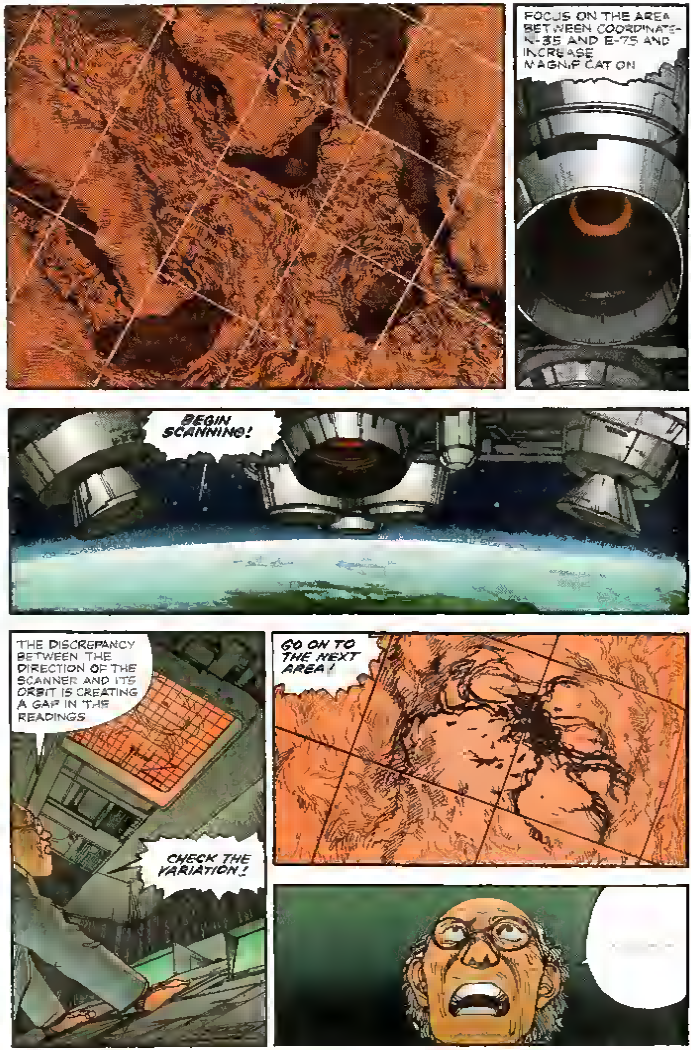
Terror sweeps the control room as the **Colonel** tries desperately to prevent panicking, but it is too late; a scientist triggers the Code 7 Emergency Alarm. Throughout Neo-Tokyo the civilian defense claxon sound. Citizens pour into the fallout shelters, lawlessness reigns on the streets as Neo-Tokyo holds its collective breath waiting for the bombs to fall again. Horrified of what has been unleashed and determined to act before a greater catastrophe occurs, the **Colonel** summons the powerful **SOL** military satellite. He orders that its laser cannon be fired at **Tetsuo** and **Akira**. The two boys are separated by the blasts. **Akira** is saved by **Kay** and **Kaneda**, but **Tetsuo** is less fortunate. The laser strikes his left arm.

Akira **Sakaki** **Nezu** **Chiyoko**

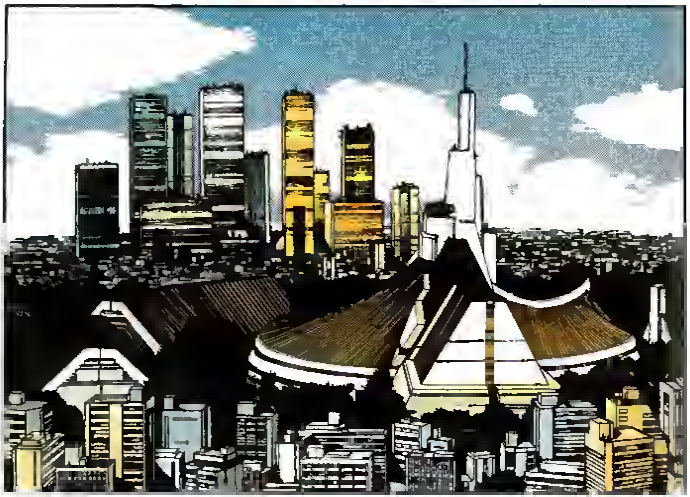
..AAH..

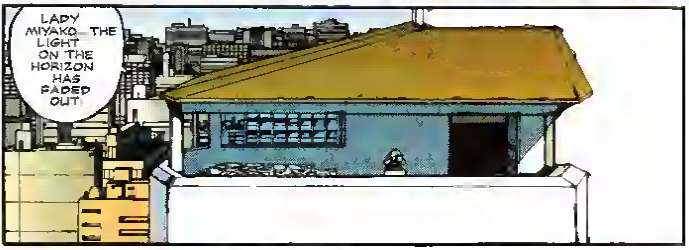
SSHHOOM
TETSUO COULDN'T HAVE SURVIVED THAT BLAST

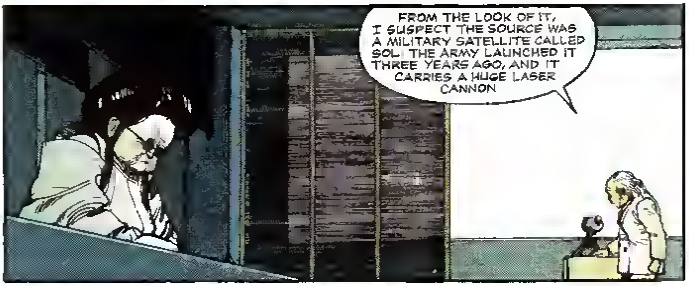

LET'S GO, KANEDA
. TETSUO
TETSUO!


FOCUS ON THE AREA BETWEEN COORDINATES N-35 AND E-75 AND INCREASE MAGNIFICATION
BEGIN SCANNING!
THE DISCREPANCY BETWEEN THE DIRECTION OF THE SCANNER AND ITS ORBIT IS CREATING A GAP IN THE READINGS
CHECK THE VARIATION!
GO ON TO THE NEXT AREA!

WH-WHAT SHALL WE DO NOW, COLONEL?
IT DOESN'T MATTER...

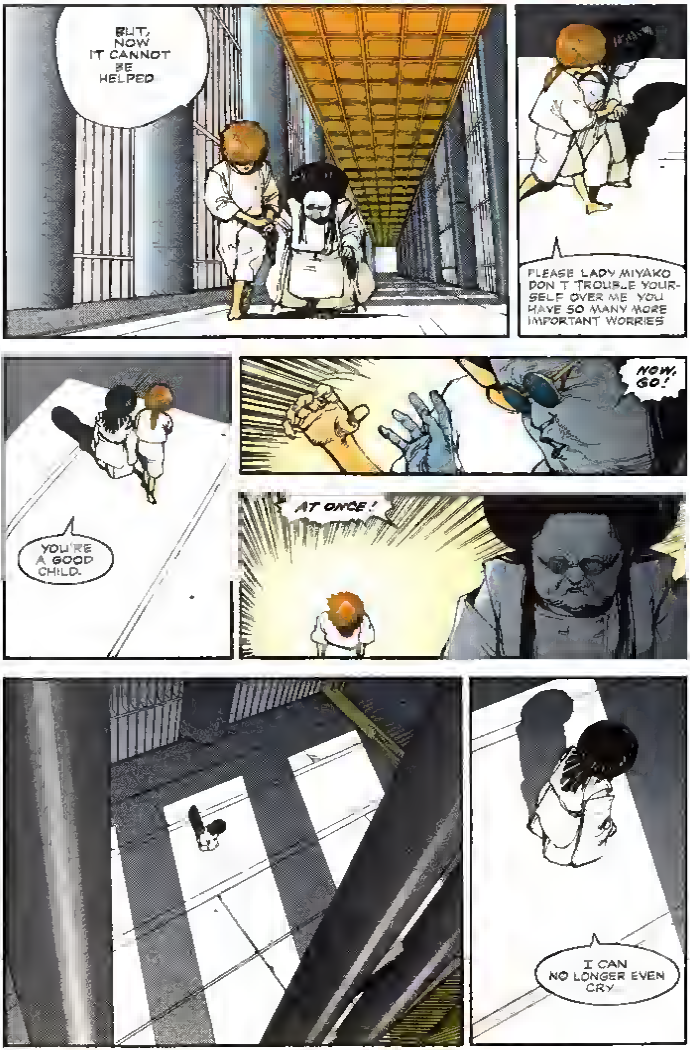


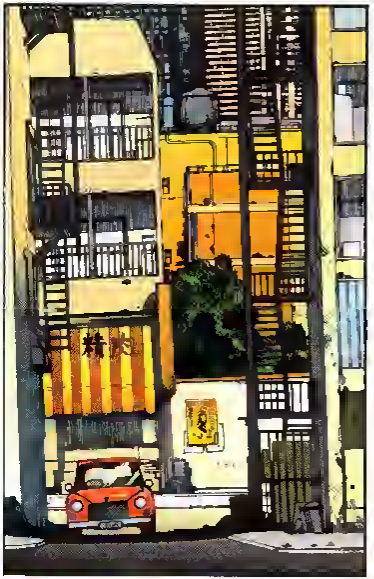

LADY MIYAKO... THE LIGHT ON THE HORIZON HAS FADED OUT!

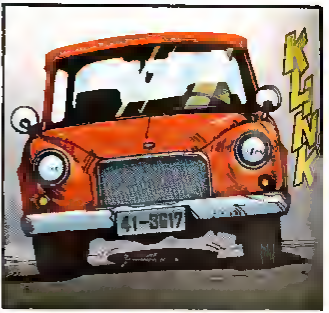

FROM THE LOOK OF IT, I SUSPECT THE SOURCE WAS A MILITARY SATELLITE CALLED SOL. THE ARMY LAUNCHED IT THREE YEARS AGO, AND IT CARRIES A HUGE LASER CANNON

SAKAKI
YES MAAM
I HAVE NEED OF YOUR SERVICE
YES, MAAM.
B-BUT, MY LADY! I'VE SERVED YOU FAITHFULLY! DONE EVERYTHING FOR YOU...
YOU SEE, NEZU... LITTLE MOUSE...
THINGS HAVE GROWN BEYOND YOUR ABILITY TO HANDLE THEM ALONE.
THE CRISIS IS UPON US. AND IT MUSTN'T CATCH YOUR PEOPLE UNAWARES.
YOU MUST SEE TO IT THAT THEY ARE READY
I UNDERSTAND!

HIS NAME IS AKIRA
YOU MUST BRING HIM TO ME.
THE LITTLE MOUSE CAN SUPPLY WHATEVER INFORMATION YOU NEED
YES MA AM
SAKAKI...
YES..?
I'M SORRY
. THAT WE NEVER FOUND THE TIME FOR YOUR FEMININE TRAINING.


BUT, NOW IT CANNOT BE HELPED
PLEASE LADY MIYAKO DON'T TROUBLE YOURSELF OVER ME. YOU HAVE SO MANY MORE IMPORTANT WORRIES
YOU'RE A GOOD CHILD.
NOW, GO!
AT ONCE!
I CAN NO LONGER EVEN CRY

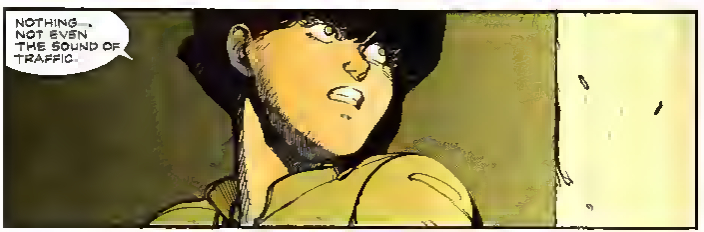


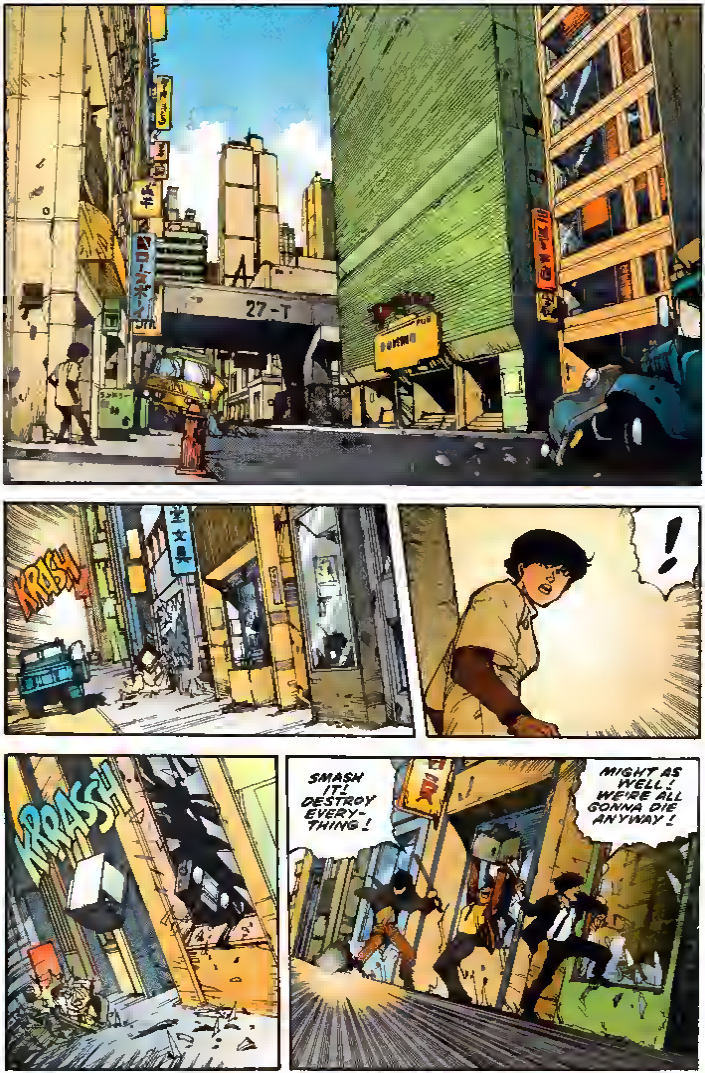

41-3617
KLINK

KLAKLUNK

TAK TAK TAK TAK

HMP!


NOTHING... NOT EVEN THE SOUND OF TRAFFIC.

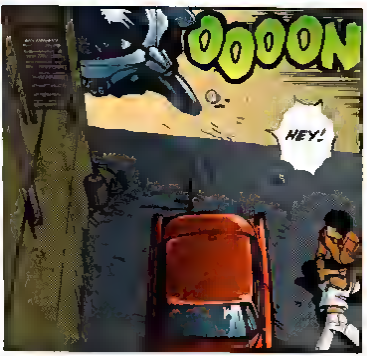

27-T
KRASH
!
KRASH
SMASH IT! DESTROY EVERY-THING!
MIGHT AS WELL! WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE ANYWAY!

KONK
OW!
WHAT A STUPID PLACE FOR SOMEONE TO PARK THEIR CAR!
KRASH
BANG
BLAM
SUNGHS
JEEZ..
HMM?
27

BHOOOOOOOO
PT-SK
77

WHA--
--WHAT IS THAT?!

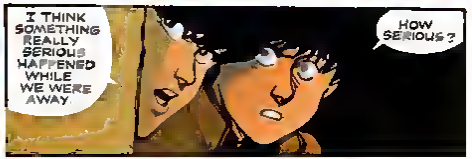
BHOOO!


OOOON
HEY!

AH... OH, KAY...

DID YOU SEE THAT THING?
LIKE A BIG MECHANICAL SPIDER!

SSH... KEEP IT DOWN.
WHY?


I THINK SOMETHING REALLY SERIOUS HAPPENED WHILE WE WERE AWAY
HOW SERIOUS?

BOOOM
SERIOUS ENOUGH TO CAUSE RIOTING IN THE STREETS!
OH!
HUNH?
BHWOOOM
LOOK! THERE'S MORE OF THEM!
BUT WHAT ARE THEY?

HUH!
WHAT'S UP?
THE POLICE ?
ストラン

KREEEEEESH

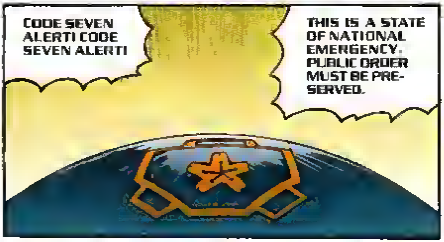
THEY LOOK LIKE BOWLING BALLS!
LET'S SHOW 'EM WE'RE NOT AFRAID!

skrit

ZZAT

ZZAAT
OHH..!
YUCK!

KINK


CODE SEVEN ALERT! CODE SEVEN ALERT!
THIS IS A STATE OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY. PUBLIC ORDER MUST BE PRESERVED.

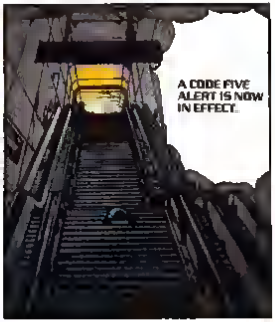
CODE SEVEN ALERT..?
ALL CITIZENS HAVE BEEN PLACED UNDER MILITARY JURISDICTION.

ANY BREACH OF THE PEACE WILL BE SEVERELY PUNISHED.
.....

BHOOM
KLAK
KLAK
BHOOM
I THINK IT'S ALL RIGHT FOR US TO GO.
BUT WHAT WERE THOSE THINGS?!
I THINK THEY'RE CALLED CARETAKERS... THE ARMY'S WATCH DOGS DURING CODE SEVEN EMERGENCIES...

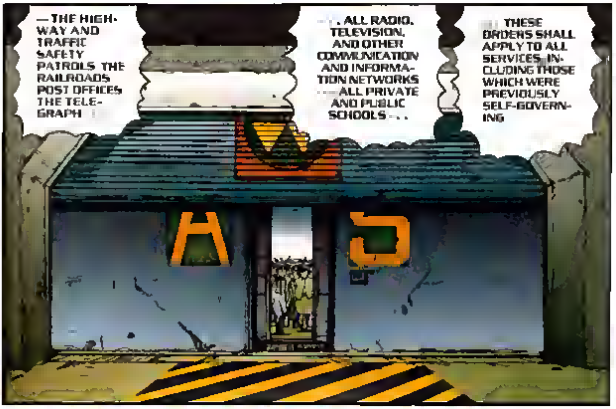
AWOOO

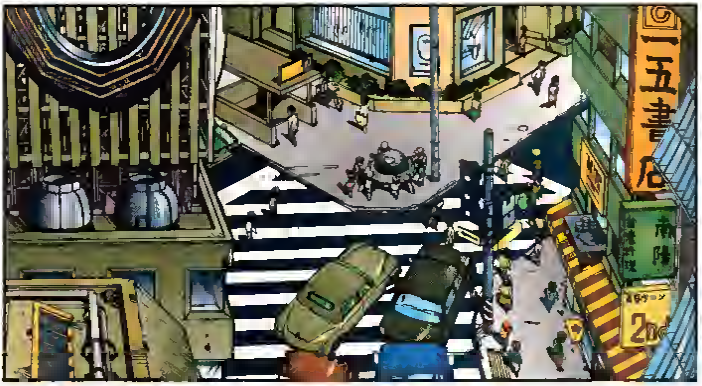
ALL CITIZENS MAY LEAVE THE SHELTERS AND RETURN HOME.
A-5
線馬線○
世田谷線○
大泉線○


A CODE FIVE ALERT IS NOW IN EFFECT.

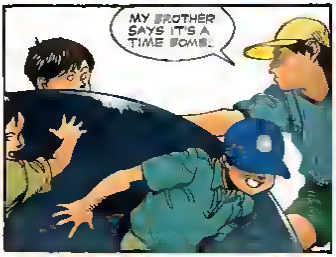
BE ADVISED THAT YOU ARE STILL UNDER MILITARY JURISDICTION.

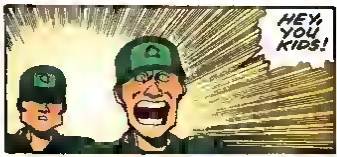
THIS IS STILL A STATE OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY.
A-5
THE FOLLOWING OFFICES WILL BE RECEIVING DIRECTIVES FROM THE GOVERNMENT—
A-5

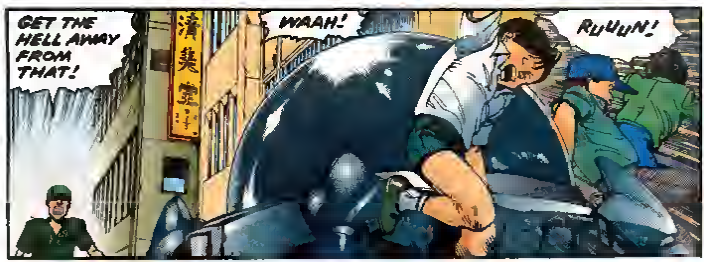

—THE HIGHWAY AND TRAFFIC SAFETY PATROLS THE RAILROADS POST OFFICES THE TELEGRAPH
. . . ALL RADIO, TELEVISION, AND OTHER COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION NETWORKS —ALL PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS . . .
THESE ORDERS SHALL APPLY TO ALL SERVICES INCLUDING THOSE WHICH WERE PREVIOUSLY SELF-GOVERNING


一五書店
南陽

MY MOMMA TOLD ME TO KEEP AWAY FROM IT.
WHAT IS IT?
27


MY BROTHER SAYS IT'S A TIME BOMB.

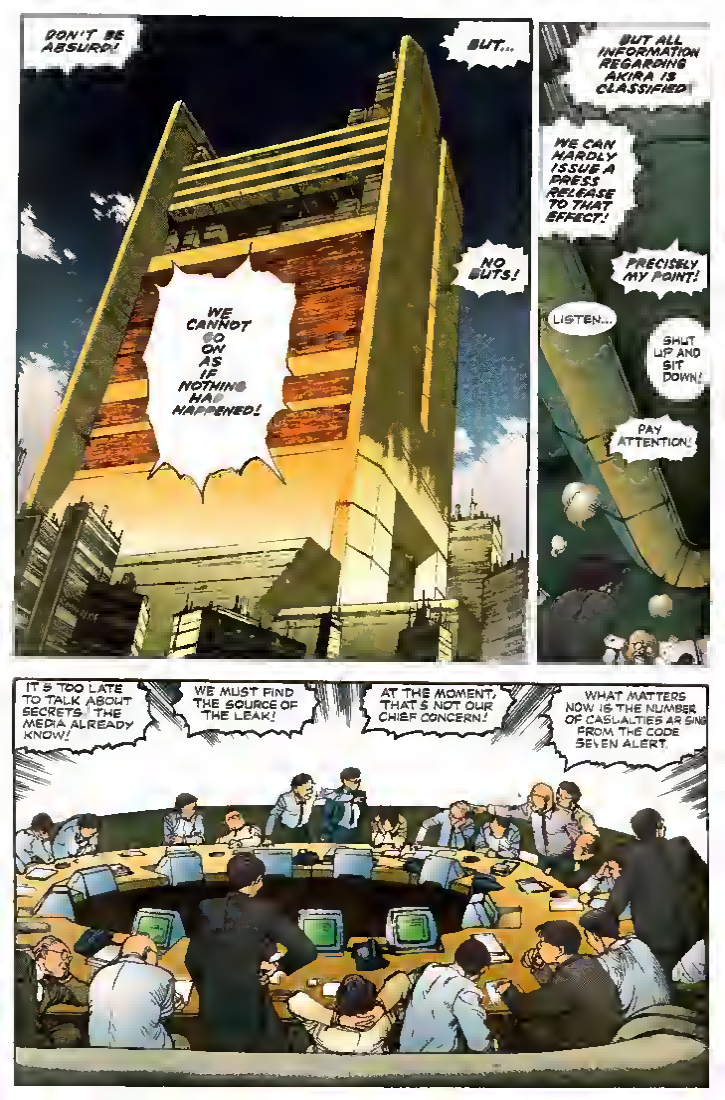

HEY, YOU KIDS!

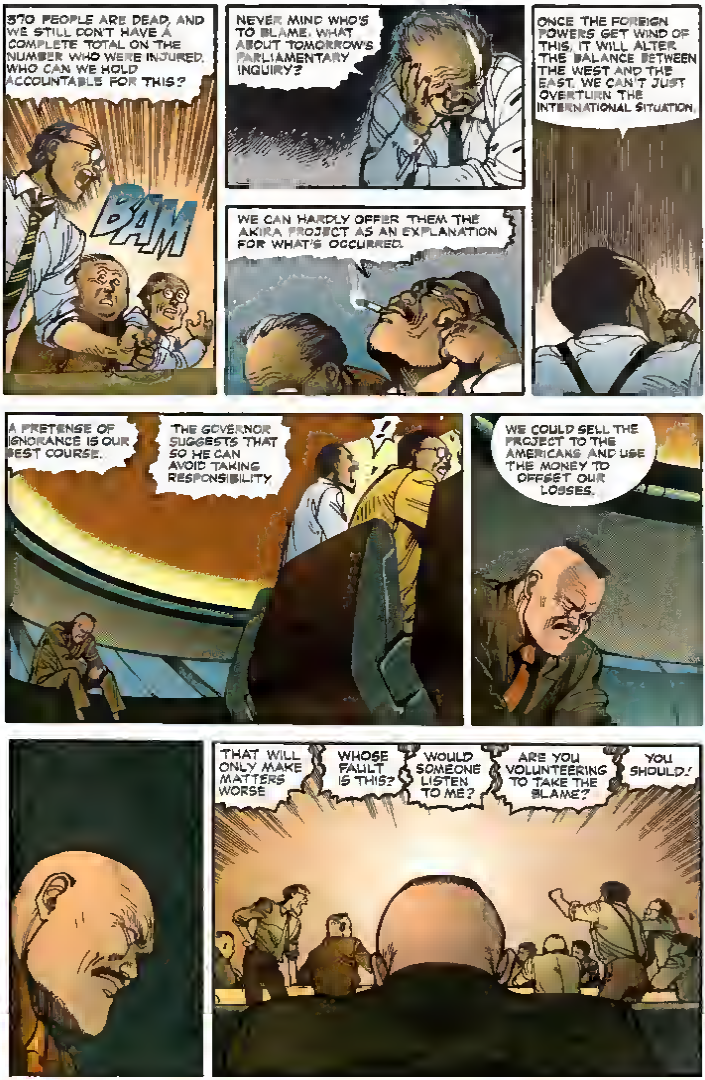

GET THE HELL AWAY FROM THAT!
MAAH!
RUUUN!

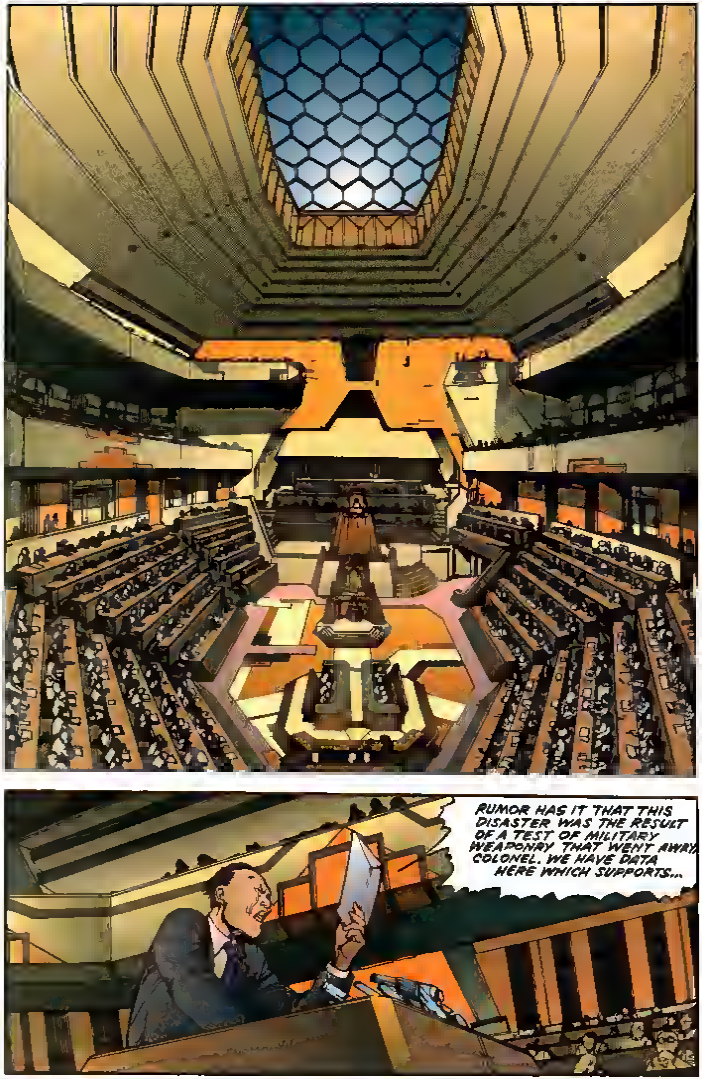
YOU STUPID PIG!
WHAT DO KIDS KNOW FROM EMERGENCIES?
KNOW WHAT I HEARD ABOUT THESE THINGS?
WHAT?
YESTERDAY AT THE ENLISTED MEN'S CLUB SOMEONE SAID...
...THESE CARETAKERS WERE BUILT TO WITHSTAND NUCLEAR ATTACK.
IF WE HAVE TO TAKE SHELTER UNDERGROUND, THEY CAN STAY UP HERE IN ALL THE RADIATION...
...AND FIGHT OFF ANYONE WHO TRIES TO INVADE.
EVEN IF EVERYONE DIES, THE ROBOTS WILL BE HERE TO PROTECT OUR LAND.

BHUUN
HMF.
HMF.
SHIFF
CHOMP
CHOMP
CHOMP
SLU-URP
GULP
GULP
GULP

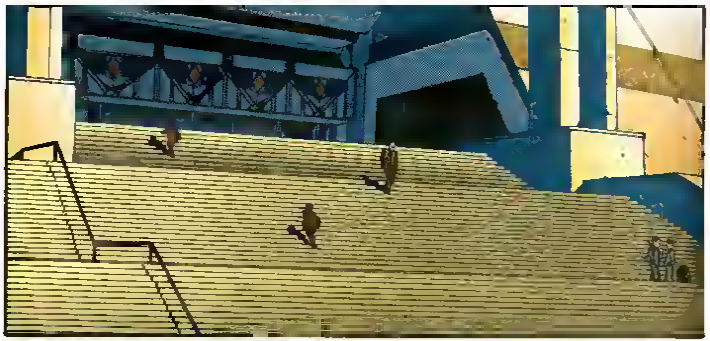
KLAK
!
THE PHONES ARE STILL OUT, AND ALL OUR PEOPLE ARE IN HIDING.
NO.
ANY LUCK?
OH...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT RYU. HE CAN TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF.
THAT'S FOR SURE.


DON'T BE ABSURD!
BUT...
WE CANNOT GO ON AS IF NOTHING HAD HAPPENED!
NO BUTS!
BUT ALL INFORMATION REGARDING AKIRA IS CLASSIFIED!
WE CAN HARDLY ISSUE A PRESS RELEASE TO THAT EFFECT!
PRECISELY MY POINT!
LISTEN...
SHUT UP AND SIT DOWN!
PAY ATTENTION!
IT'S TOO LATE TO TALK ABOUT SECRETS. THE MEDIA ALREADY KNOW!
WE MUST FIND THE SOURCE OF THE LEAK!
AT THE MOMENT, THAT'S NOT OUR CHIEF CONCERN!
WHAT MATTERS NOW IS THE NUMBER OF CASUALTIES ARISING FROM THE CODE SEVEN ALERT.

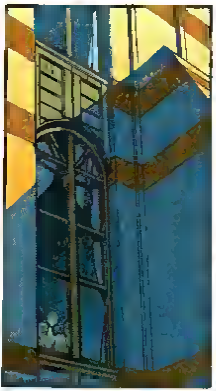

370 PEOPLE ARE DEAD, AND WE STILL DON'T HAVE A COMPLETE TOTAL ON THE NUMBER WHO WERE INJURED. WHO CAN WE HOLD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THIS?
BAM
NEVER MIND WHO'S TO BLAME. WHAT ABOUT TOMORROW'S PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY?
WE CAN HARDLY OFFER THEM THE AKIRA PROJECT AS AN EXPLANATION FOR WHAT'S OCCURRED.
ONCE THE FOREIGN POWERS GET WIND OF THIS, IT WILL ALTER THE BALANCE BETWEEN THE WEST AND THE EAST. WE CAN'T JUST OVERTURN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION.
A PRETENSE OF IGNORANCE IS OUR BEST COURSE.
THE GOVERNOR SUGGESTS THAT SO HE CAN AVOID TAKING RESPONSIBILITY
!
WE COULD SELL THE PROJECT TO THE AMERICANS AND USE THE MONEY TO OFFSET OUR LOSSES.
THAT WILL ONLY MAKE MATTERS WORSE
WHOSE FAULT IS THIS?
WOULD SOMEONE LISTEN TO ME?
ARE YOU VOLUNTEERING TO TAKE THE BLAME?
YOU SHOULD!


RUMOR HAS IT THAT THIS DISASTER WAS THE RESULT OF A TEST OF MILITARY WEAPONRY THAT WENT AWRY, COLONEL. WE HAVE DATA HERE WHICH SUPPORTS...

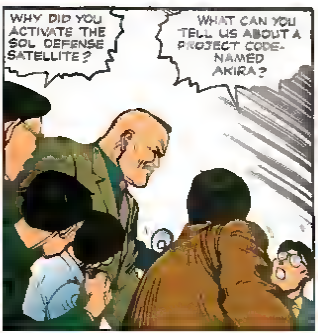
THERE ARE ALWAYS RUMORS! RUMORS AND MISINFORMATION DISSEMINATED BY RADICAL FORCES TRYING TO CREATE A NATIONAL STATE OF PANIC.
THE CODE SEVEN ALERT WAS SET IN MOTION BY A COMPUTER ERROR. THERE WAS A MALFUNCTION IN THE DEFENSE SYSTEMS. THAT IS ALL IT EVER WAS.
AS TO THE QUESTION OF WHEN WE WILL BE LIFTING MARTIAL LAW...
AS I HAVE ALREADY STATED, THERE ARE CERTAIN RADICAL FORCES ATTEMPTING TO EXPLOIT THIS SITUATION AS IT NOW EXISTS...
THEREFORE, IN THE INTERESTS OF MAINTAINING ORDER...
BUT, MR CHAIRMAN, THE DATA I HAVE HERE..
LET THE COLONEL FINISH SPEAKING!
THIS SESSION IS ADJOURNED!
WE'LL NEED A RECESS IN WHICH TO REVIEW...
BUT HOW CAN YOU...?



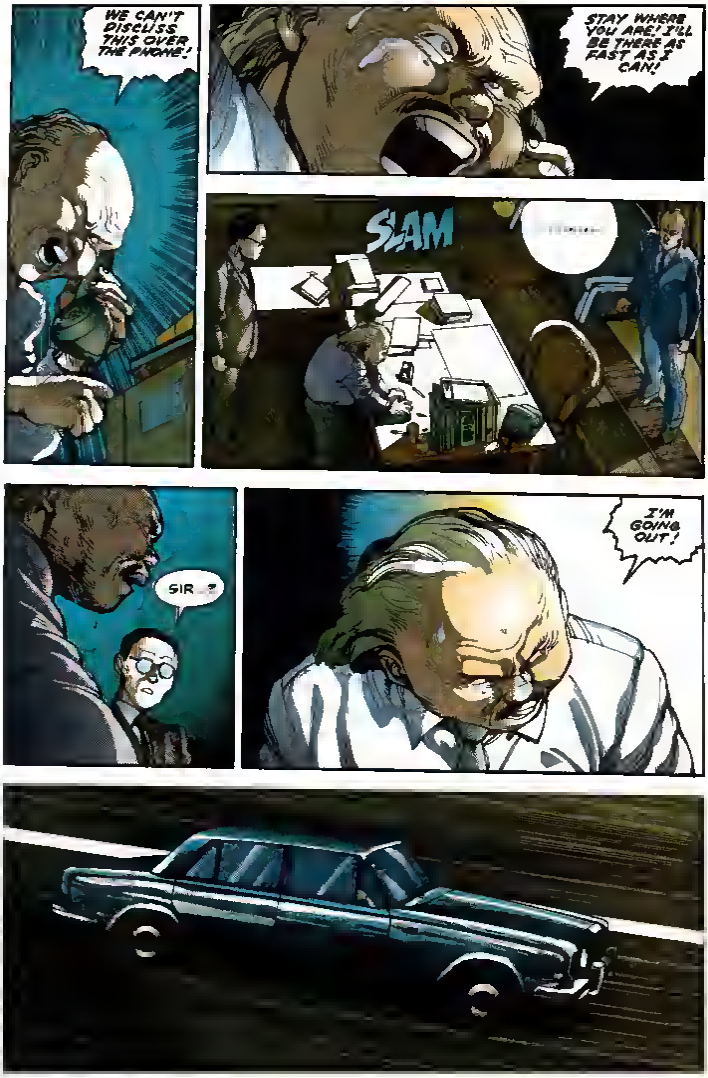
!
tak tak

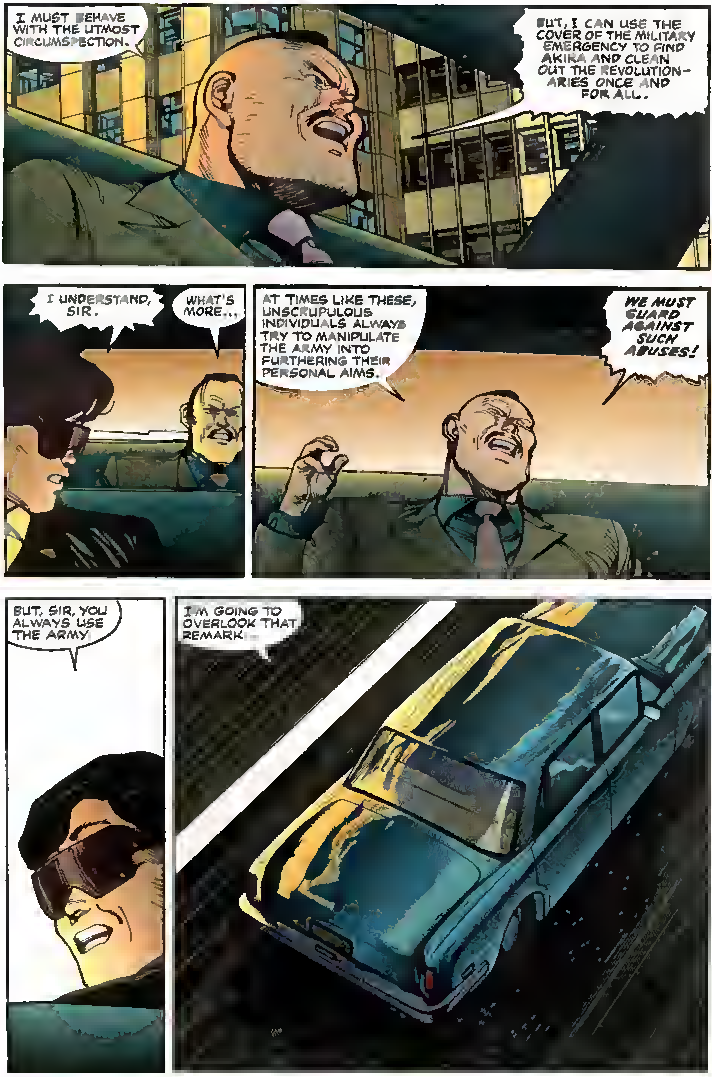


...COLONEL HAVE YOU READ THE REPORTS THAT--?
THERE ARE RUMORS OF A FORGOTTEN SECRET WEAPON...


WHY DID YOU ACTIVATE THE SOL DEFENSE SATELLITE?
WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT A PROJECT CODE-NAMED AKIRA?

MR. NEZU'S OFFICE...
NO, I'M AFRAID MR NEZU IS UNAVAILABLE AT THE MOMENT
YES, I SEE. URGENT...
PERHAPS IF YOU WERE TO TELL ME...
WHO IS IT?
SHE INSISTS ON SPEAKING WITH YOU DIRECTLY, SIR.
SHE SAYS SHE'S RYUSAKU'S SISTER..
RYU'S SISTER... KAY?
VERY WELL
HELLO? YES! I TOLD YOU NEVER TO CALL ME HERE!
WHAT?!
AKIRA?!

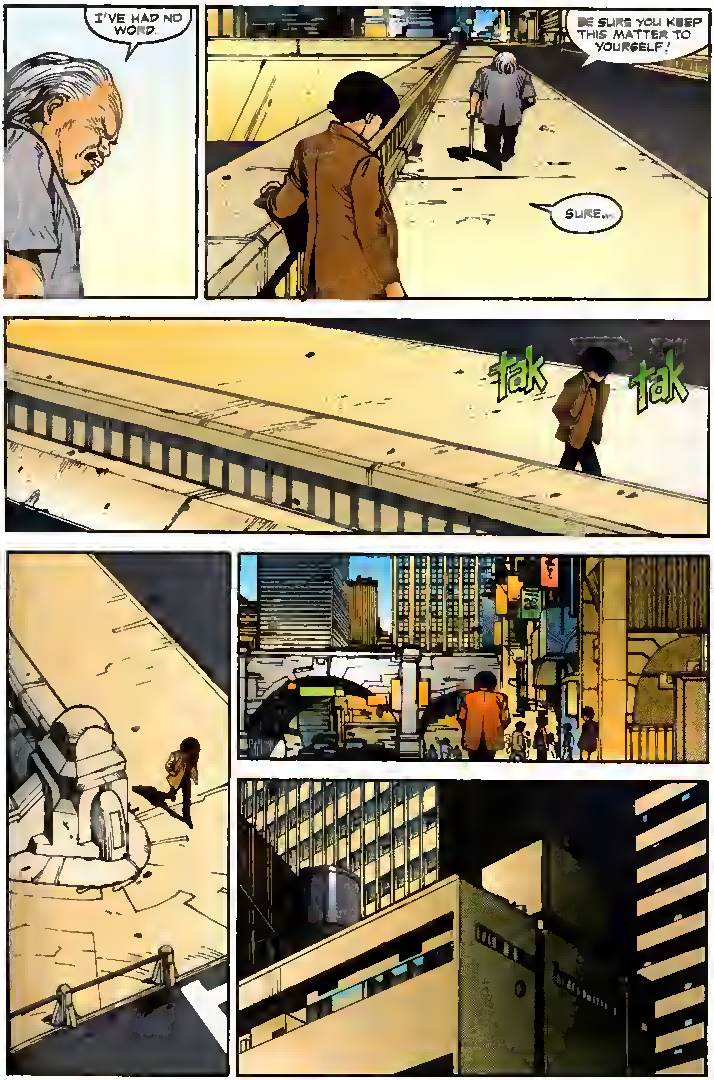

WE CAN'T DISCUSS THIS OVER THE PHONE!
STAY WHERE YOU ARE! I'LL BE THERE AS FAST AS I CAN!
SLAM
SIR...?
I'M GOING OUT!


I MUST BEHAVE WITH THE UTMOST CIRCUMSPECTION.
BUT, I CAN USE THE COVER OF THE MILITARY EMERGENCY TO FIND AKIRA AND CLEAN OUT THE REVOLUTIONARIES ONCE AND FOR ALL.
I UNDERSTAND, SIR.
WHAT'S MORE...
AT TIMES LIKE THESE, UNSCRUPULOUS INDIVIDUALS ALWAYS TRY TO MANIPULATE THE ARMY INTO FURTHERING THEIR PERSONAL AIMS.
WE MUST GUARD AGAINST SUCH ABUSES!
BUT, SIR, YOU ALWAYS USE THE ARMY.
I'M GOING TO OVERLOOK THAT REMARK!

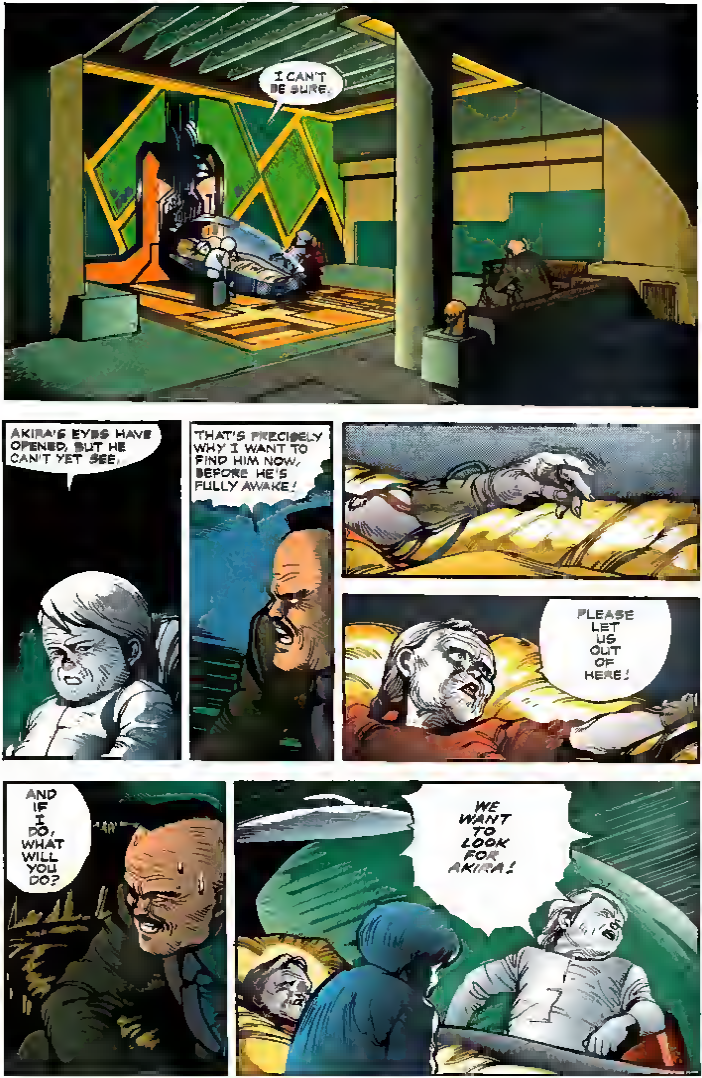
!
ARE YOU KAY?
YES, I AM.

30
YOU ESCAPED FROM THE UNDERGROUND BASE AT THE HEART OF DESTRUCTION?
I WAS WONDERING... WAS ALL THAT DEVASTATION AKIRA'S DOING?
YOU KNOW THAT CRATER WAS LEFT BY A BOMB.
YOU MEAN AKIRA WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR WORLD WAR THREE?
I DON'T KNOW. PERHAPS.
...TH-THAT SUGGESTION IS PREPOSTEROUS!

CAN YOU BRING AKIRA TO ME?
NO PROBLEM WHERE WILL YOU BE?
I HAVE A SAFE HOUSE IN THE 24TH DISTRICT, HERE'S THE ADDRESS
THIS MATTER IS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL. TELL NO ONE OF IT NOT EVEN THE YOUNG MAN WHO'S WITH YOU. IS THAT STRICTLY UNDERSTOOD?
WAIT
WHAT IS IT?
WHAT ABOUT RYU? DO YOU KNOW WHERE HE IS?

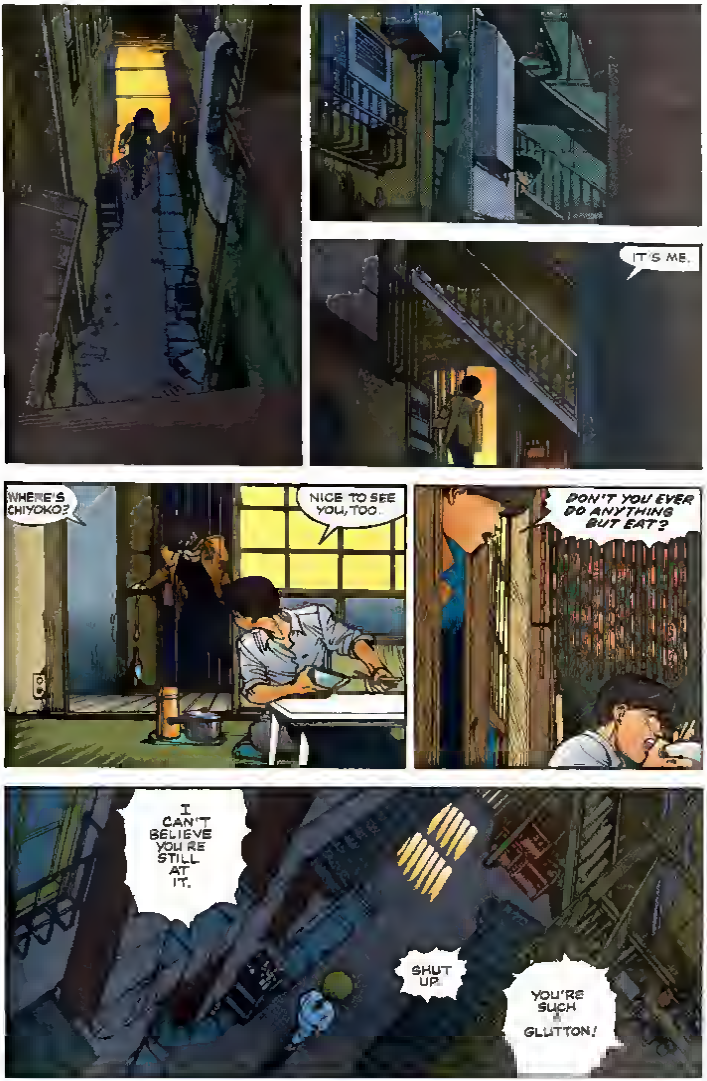

I'VE HAD NO WORD.
BE SURE YOU KEEP THIS MATTER TO YOURSELF!
SURE...
tak
tak

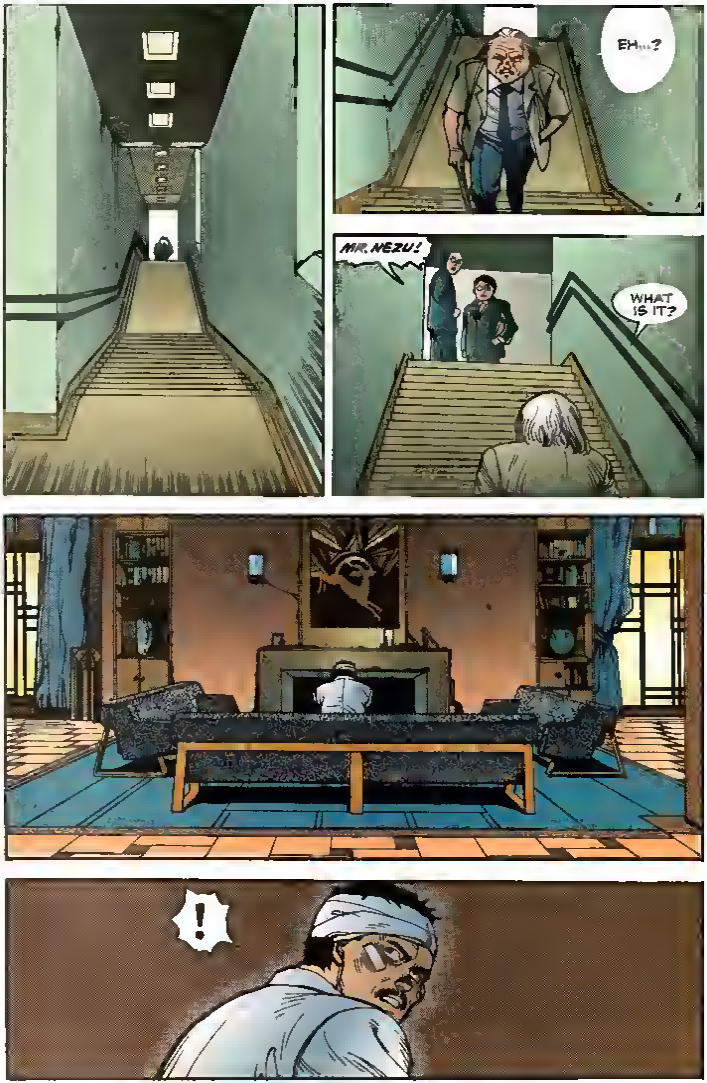
TELL ME, KIYOKO, IS NUMBER 41 STILL ALIVE?
I CANNOT SAY... IS THERE SOMETHING MORE?
I MUST FIND OUT WHERE HE IS NOW.
YOU'VE ALREADY TOLD ME AKIRA HAS RISEN.


I CAN'T BE SURE.
AKIRA'S EYES HAVE OPENED, BUT HE CAN'T YET SEE.
THAT'S PRECISELY WHY I WANT TO FIND HIM NOW, BEFORE HE'S FULLY AWAKE!
PLEASE LET US OUT OF HERE!
AND IF I DO, WHAT WILL YOU DO?
WE WANT TO LOOK FOR AKIRA!

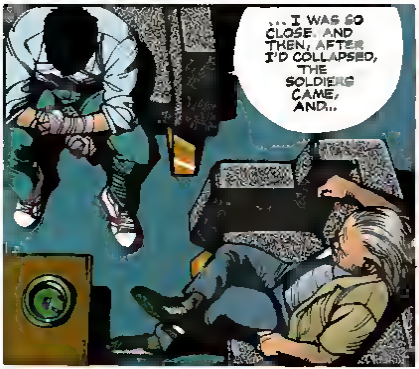
HE'S ONE OF US, AND WE MISS HIM.
THE TRUTH IS, I CAME TO ASK YOU TO DO THAT VERY THING.

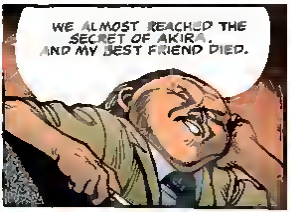
tak
tak
tak
.....
.....
IS MY IMAGINATION PLAYING TRICKS ON ME?


IT'S ME.
WHERE'S CHIYOKO?
NICE TO SEE YOU, TOO.
DON'T YOU EVER DO ANYTHING BUT EAT?
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE STILL AT IT.
SHUT UP.
YOU'RE SUCH A GLUTTON!


EH...?
MR. NEZU!
WHAT IS IT?
!

SLAM
AYU, YOU FOOL! I TOLD YOU TO STAY AWAY FROM THIS OFFICE!
I'M SORRY, SIR, BUT I THOUGHT YOU'D WANT MY REPORT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO YOURSELF?
DONE...?
YOU MEAN THESE BANDAGES?
IT'S FROSTBITE, SIR. I'VE BEEN IN A MILITARY HOSPITAL.
MILITARY...
SIR, YOU MUST LISTEN!


... I WAS SO CLOSE. AND THEN, AFTER I'D COLLAPSED, THE SOLDIERS CAME, AND...


WE ALMOST REACHED THE SECRET OF AKIRA. AND MY BEST FRIEND DIED.

I SWEAR I'LL MAKE THEM PAY!

NEVER MIND THAT NOW.

BUT WE FINALLY KNOW WHERE AKIRA IS!

WAS.

HUNH?

WHILE YOU WERE OUT OF COMMISSION, OUR PARTY REVISED ITS POLICY.

IN THE FUTURE, WE EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO ATTACK THE GOVERNMENT QUITE OPENLY.

WE'VE ACQUIRED A SECRET WEAPON OF OUR OWN. WHICH WILL BE ARRIVING HERE SHORTLY
BUT WHAT ABOUT ME?
FOR THE MOMENT, YOU JUST CONCENTRATE ON GETTING WELL
I APPRECIATE THE INFORMATION YOU'VE BROUGHT ME...
KLK
THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GOOD WORK
SO THE GIRL WAS RIGHT! AMAZING
KLM

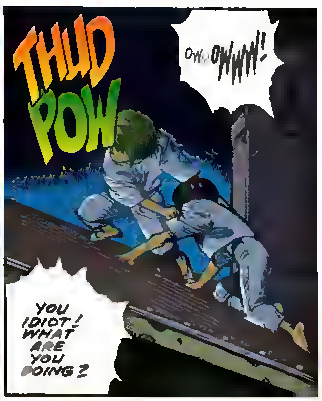
AS I SEE IT...
...IT DOESN'T PAY TO BE TOO CLEVER. YOU'D BE SAFEST GOING THERE IN BROAD DAYLIGHT, CASUALLY DRESSED.
I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT.
WHAT'S THE ADDRESS?
THE ADDRESS?
OH I SEE.
...THEY WILL CONTACT YOU LATER.

ARE YOU... AKIRA?
WAKE UP

SIGH
THE STARS LOOK GREAT TONIGHT.
PUNK
SHUNK
"STARRY, STARRY NIGHT..."

!
WHO ARE YOU ?!
A GIRL?
KRASH
!
WHAT'S GOING ON UP THERE?!
AGH!

KRASH
BAM
bump
bump
bump
bump

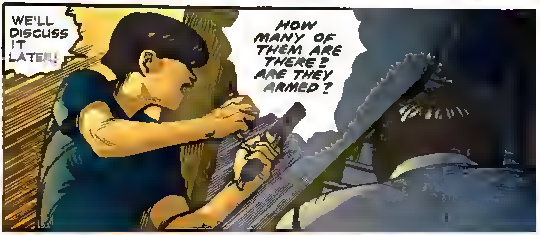

THUD
POW
OWWW!
YOU IDIOT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

THE KID-- AKIRA...
WHAT ABOUT AKIRA?!

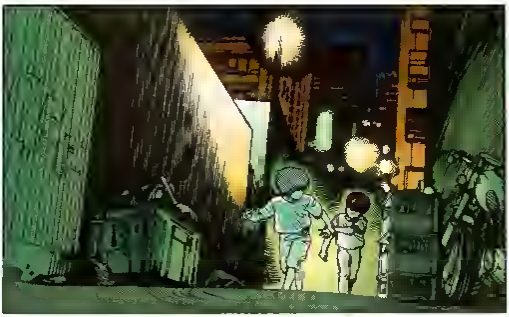
THERE'S SOMEONE UPSTAIRS KIDNAPPING HIM!

KLAK

SOMEONE TAILED YOU, AND YOU NEVER NOTICED!


WE'LL DISCUSS IT LATER!
HOW MANY OF THEM ARE THERE? ARE THEY ARMED?

WHAT?
ONLY ONE GIRL?
YOU THINK AN ORDINARY GIRL COULD HAVE KNOCKED ME ON MY ASS LIKE THAT?
ARE YOU SAYING...
...SHE MUST HAVE... THE POWER?
CHI...CHIYOKO...
I HOPE THIS IS STRONG ENOUGH TO HANDLE HER
LET'S GO!



:GASP!

bhoooon

THIS IS A CODE FIVE ALERT.
PK-2

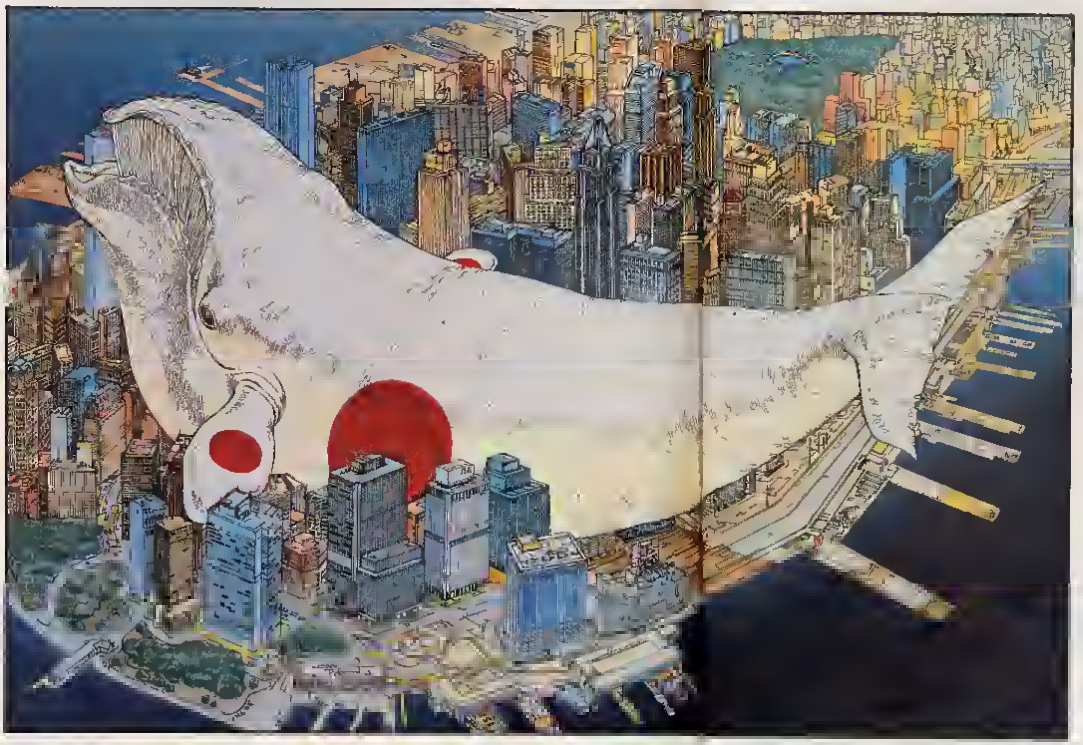
A CURFEW IS IN EFFECT. IT IS FORBIDDEN TO GO OUT AT NIGHT
BHOOOON
I REPEAT. THIS IS A CODE FIVE
PK 20
95

NEXT ISSUE **DESPERATION**

Otomo Katsuhiro

Those of us who have been exposed to Otomo's work marvel at the beautiful line work, the exciting attention to detail, the way a cityscape of the mind springs to life

Unfortunately for us here in America, we have not had a chance to see any of Otomo's other published work, until now. Ask your favorite store owner, the one where you bought this book, if he has ordered **Otomo Katsuhiro Artwork—Kaba.** Enclosed within the covers of this book is a stunning array of Otomo's art that was created from 1971–1988. It ranges from comics to commercials, illustrations to television credit sequences.



This illustration is from the comic book *Sayonara Nippon* Futabasha Company Ltd 1982. The medium is rotring with acrylic colors and color tone.

To me the hardest thing about the book was putting it down. Each time I found something new that I swore I had not seen before. It was a joy seeing an advance copy of the book that I hope you will soon have the experience of seeing for yourself.

This is an end paper for the comic book *Hansel & Gretel*, CBS-SONY Publishing Inc., 1981. The medium is acrylic colors.

KATSUHIRO OTOMO
writer/illustrator

YASUMITSU SUETAKE
chief assistant to Mr. Otomo

MAKOTO SHIOSAKI
SATOSHI TAKABATAKE
assistants to Mr. Otomo

HIROSHI HIRATA
designer • AKIRA calligraphy

AKIRA SAITO
designer • Kodansha edition

Kodansha Ltd.

YOKO UMEZAWA
with LINDA M. YORK
translation

KOICHI YURI
editor • Kodansha edition

YUKA ANDO
editorial coordinator • Tokyo

NORIYUKI OKAZAKI
managing editor • New York

Epic Comics

JO DUFFY
english adaptation

STEVE OLIFF
with the
OLYOPTICS COMPUTER CREW
colorists

MICHAEL HIGGINS
letterer

HARRY CANDELARIO
production

MARIE JAVINS
assistant editor

MARGARET CLARK
editor

CARL POTTS
executive editor

Through Neo Tokyo a web has been woven. The web is not silken gossamer: it is hard and cold—forged with a hundred lies, hardened with a thousand treacheries. One man, the Colonel, may have started it, but countless more have helped him weave it until it now reaches everywhere. One single tug from a child called Akira has started unravelling the web. Frantically, the weavers try to remake the strands to perpetuate their treachery—but to no avail. The old web is being swept away, a new web has been started. Akira has risen.

KATSUHIRO OTOMO'S

24885 23088

A fanfare. A chorus. The awakening of Akira has begun.

Tetsuo, juvenile delinquent turned power mad mutant, jealously nurses the psychic child. The race for control of Akira rushes on, spurred by warring factions who all vie for possession of the force that may doom Neo-Tokyo.

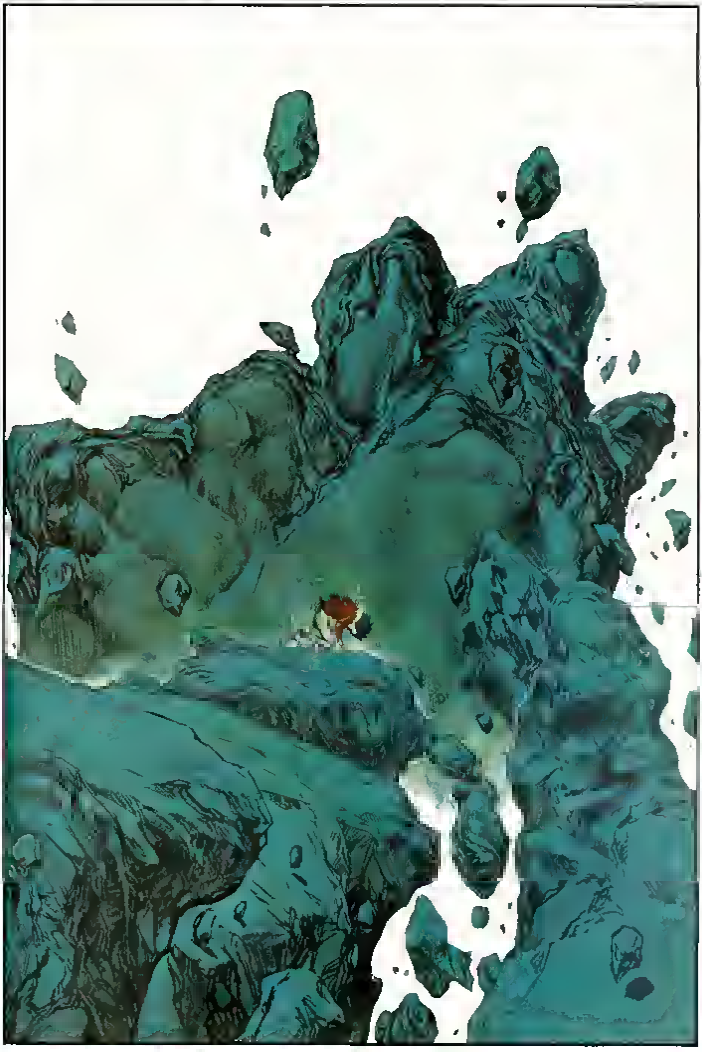
In the future, the end has begun. Hail the dawn of a new era for mankind; perhaps its last.

AKIRA

04

0 24885 23668 2

#MANGA-SKETCHBOOK@DALNET SCANNED AND EDITED BY FINNPEST



BADOOM
.....
KRASH
SKRIT
!
ZZAT
ZAT

OTOMO Katsuhiro

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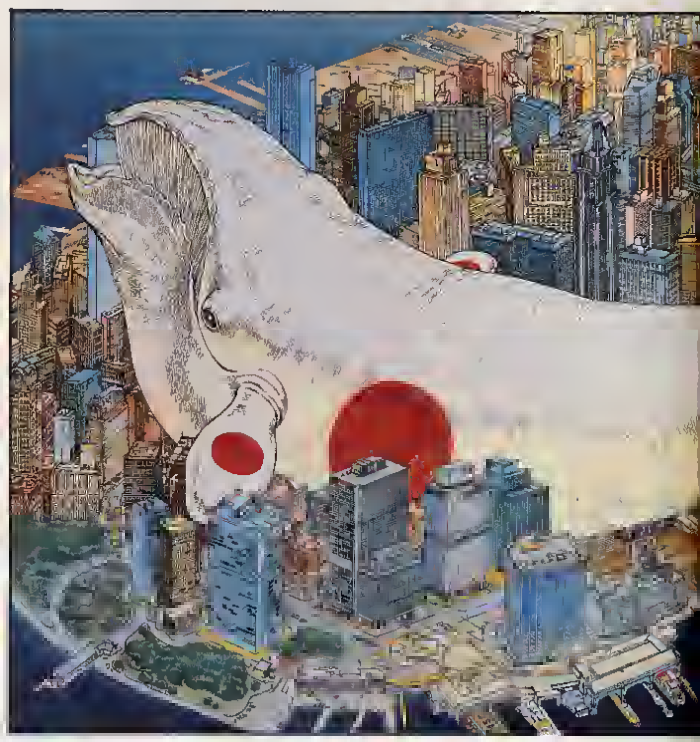

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This scan produced by:

I love um

I buy um

I preserve um